

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 13911 101034Z

15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 MMO-04 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4551

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCPAC

CINCUSNAVEUR

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS LONDON 13911

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, XO, MAR, SE, US, UK

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA EVACUEES

1. SEPTEMBER 10 RADIO NEWS AND GUARDIAN NEWSPAPER GIVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO DAVID OTTAWAY STORY FROM PORT LOUIS AND STATEMENT BY SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE ON UNHAPPY FATE OF COPRA WORKERS REMOVED FROM DIEGO GARCIA TO MAKE WAY FOR U.S. NAVAL FACILITY THERE. STORY APPEARS TO BE BASED ON SEPTEMBER 9 WASHINGTON POST STORY.

2. GUARDIAN STORY IS SPECTACULAR 6 COLUMN FRONT-PAGE SPREAD. IT QUOTES LARGE PORTIONS OF OTTAWAY STORY AND ADDS LOCAL COLOR WITH QUOTE FROM TAM DALYELL, LABOR PARTY MP AND CONSISTENT CRITIC OF DIEGO GARCIA. TEXT BEING POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES. MAIN POINT OF ARTICLE IS THAT AMERICAN AND BRITISH CLAIM THAT IOT IS UNINHABITED IS FALSE.

3. RADIO COVERAGE QUOTES WASHINGTON POST AND SENATOR UNCLASSIFIED

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KENNEDY AND SAYS FCO IS MAKING NO COMMENT.

4. DAILY TELEGRAPH CARRIES SHORT ITEM ON PAGE ONE
QUOTING POST BUT NO OTHER NATIONAL NEWSPAPERS SEPTEMBER
10 MENTION DIEGO GARCIA.

5. FCO IS TAKING STORY CALMLY. THEY HAVE NOT YET
DEVELOPED PRESS LINE FOR SEPTEMBER 10 NOON BRIEFING. WE
WILL REPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS SEPTTEL.

RICHARDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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